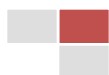


Present - Past forms

| Present Simple | Present Continuous |
|---|---|
| Affirmative ☼ I cook ☼ You cook | Affirmative ☼ I am cooking ☼ You are cooking |
| Negative ☼ I don't cook ☼ He doesn't cook etc | Negative ☼ I'm not cooking ☼ He isn't cooking etc |
| Interrogative ☼ Do you cook? ☼ Does he cook? Etc | Interrogative ☼ Are you cooking? ☼ Is he cooking? Etc |
| Permanent situations or states ☼ He lives in a mansion. Permanent truths or laws of nature ☼ Water boils at 100°C | Temporary situations ☼ She is staying with Pam at the moment Changing or developing situations ☼ He is getting fatter and fatter |
| Repeated/habitual actions [especially with frequency adverbs: often, usually, always etc] ☼ He is always on time. [here "always" means every day] | Frequently repeated actions with always, constantly, continually expressing annoyance or criticism ☼ He's always biting his nails. [here "always" means constantly] |
| Reviews / sports / commentaries / dramatic narrative ☼ Ford acts brilliantly in this film | Actions happening at or around the moment of speaking ☼ The police are investigating the case. |
| Timetables / programmes [future meaning] ☼ The match starts at 5.00 In exclamatory sentences ☼ Here comes George! | Fixed arrangements in the near future ☼ I'm seeing Greg on Monday. |



| Present Perfect | Present Perf. Continuous |
|--|--|
| Affirmative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ I have cooked ☼ You have cooked ☼ He has cooked etc | Affirmative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ I have been cooking ☼ You have been cooking ☼ He has been cooking etc |
| Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ I haven't cooked ☼ You haven't cooked ☼ He hasn't cooked etc. | Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ I haven't been cooking. ☼ You haven't been cooking. ☼ He hasn't been cooking etc. |
| Interrogative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ Have I cooked? ☼ Have you cooked? ☼ Has he cooked? etc | Interrogative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ Have I been cooking? ☼ Have you been cooking? ☼ Has he been cooking? |
| Recently completed actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ She has cooked dinner. <p>[The action is complete. Dinner is now cooked. - evidence in the present]</p> | Actions started in the past and continuing up to the present. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ He has been digging in the garden for an hour. <p>[He started an hour ago and he 's still digging it]</p> |
| Complete past actions connected to the present with stated or unstated time reference. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ He has bought a house. <p>[Now he has a house]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ He has just entered <p>[stated time reference]</p> | Past actions of certain duration having visible results or effects in the present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ He has been walking in the rain. That's why he's wet. |



| | |
|---|---|
| Personal experiences / changes which have happened ☼ She has grown her hair long recently. | To express anger, irritation, annoyance, explanation or criticism ☼ Someone has been sleeping in my bed. [annoyance] |
| Emphasis on number ☼ He has checked three hotels this week. ☼ She has been to the shop twice this morning. | Present perfect continuous is normally used with for, since or how long to put emphasis on duration. ☼ She has been working since 8 o'clock. |



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Time expressions usually used with Present Forms

⚡ Present Simple:

- Everyday / week / month / year, usually, sometimes, always, rarely, never, often, in the morning / evening / afternoon, at night, on Mondays etc.
- Present Continuous:
- Now, at the moment, at present, nowadays, today, tonight, always, still etc
- Present Perfect & Present Perfect Continuous:
- Just, ever, never, already, yet [negations & questions] always, how long, so far, recently, since [= from a starting point in the past], for [= over a period of time], today, this week / month etc
- For and since are usually used with present perfect continuous to emphasize the duration of an action.



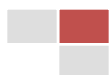
⚡ Tense Forms:

Stative verbs:

Express a permanent state rather than an action and do not have continuous forms.

These are:

1. **Verbs of the senses:** [used to express involuntary actions]: feel, hear, see, smell, taste etc./ see someone standing at the front door.
2. **Verbs of feelings and emotions:** adore, detest, dislike, enjoy, forgive, hate, like etc. she really enjoys cooking for her friends.
3. **Verbs of opinion:** agree, believe, suppose, understand etc. / I don't believe he's coming.



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4. **Other verbs:** appear [= seem], belong, concern, contain, depend, fit [= be the right shape and size for sth], have [= possess], know, mean, owe, own, possess, need, prefer, require, want, weight, wish, keep [= continue], seem etc. This skirt fits you well.

Note:

Feel and **hurt** can be used in continuous or simple forms.

Eg ▪ Ann is **feeling** / **feels** tired

Listen, look and watch express deliberate actions and can be used in continuous forms.

Eg ▪ They **are looking** at some pictures.

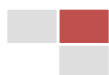
Some stative verbs [be, love, see, smell, taste, think etc] have continuous forms but there is a difference in meaning.

| State | Action |
|---|--|
| ✚ I see exactly what you mean. [= I understand] | ✚ She is seeing a lawyer tonight. [= she's meeting] |
| ✚ Peter thinks he knows everything. [= he believes] | ✚ He is thinking of studying law. [= he is considering] |
| ✚ They have a villa in Portugal. [= they own] | ✚ He is having problems. [= he is experiencing] |
| ✚ A baby's skin feels very smooth. [= it has a smooth texture] | ✚ He is feeling the engine to see how hot it is. [= he's touching] |
| ✚ This soup tastes of garlic. [= it has the taste of garlic] | ✚ Why are you tasting the curry? [= why are you testing the flavour?] |



- ✚ The room **smells** of fresh flowers. [= they like in general]
- ✚ Most people **love / enjoy** eating out. [= they like in general]
- ✚ Begad **is** a difficult person to get on with. [= his character is difficult]
- ✚ He **looks** as if he's going to faint. [= he appears]
- ✚ The patient **appears** to be recovering. [= he seems to be]
- ✚ Sam now **weighs** more than his father. [= his weight is more]
- ✚ My uniform **doesn't fit** me. [= it isn't the right size]

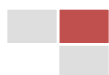
- ✚ Why **are you smelling** that meat? [= why are you checking its smell]
- ✚ She **is loving / is enjoying** every minute of her holiday. [= she likes specifically]
- ✚ Jane **is being** particularly generous this week. [= she is behaving generously]
- ✚ They **are looking** at the photos. [= they are viewing]
- ✚ Simply Red **are appearing** on stage next week. [= they are giving a performance]
- ✚ The doctor **is weighing** the baby. [= she is finding out its weight]
- ✚ We **are fitting** a new kitchen next week. [= installing]



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Past Tenses

| | Past Simple | Past Progressive | Past Perfect | Past Perfect progressive |
|-------------|--|--|--|---|
| Ex | He worked hard. | He was working hard. | He had worked hard. | He had been working hard. |
| Form | Regular Irregular verbs | Was-were + verb + - ing | Had+ past participle | Had + been + verb + -ing |
| Use | When the time is mentioned or understood: E.g. He went to the club yesterday. | Action at a specific time in the past: E.g. At six p.m. yesterday, he was studying Maths. | For an action which happened before another past action or before a stated time in the past. E.g. Before we reached the airport, the plane had already left. | To put emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished in the past before another past action or a stated time in the past, usually with since or for. E.g. They had been looking for a house for six months before they found one they liked. |
| | Successive actions in the past: E.g. I went home late last night. I ate a sandwich, took a shower and went straight to bed. | For an action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. E.g. When Tom came home, Mary was watching TV. | | For an action which lasted for some time in the past and whose result was visible in the past. E.g. He was annoyed. He had been waiting in the airport for three hours. |
| | | For parallel actions in the past. E.g. As I was doing my H.W., my brother was playing with his friend. | | |



✚ In other words:

- I've never read such a good book.
It's the best book I've ever read.
- He started studying Spanish two years ago.
He has been studying Spanish for two year.
- When did he start work?
How long is it since he started work?
How long ago did he start work?
- They haven't reached Madrid yet.
They still haven't reached Madrid.
- He moved to London two months ago.
He has been in London for two months.
- He hasn't been out for two months.
The last time he went out was two months ago.
- It's a long time since we went out.
We haven't been out for a long time.
- I've never eaten Chinese food before.
It's the first time I've ever eaten Chinese food.
- He started cleaning as soon as the guests [had] left.
He didn't start cleaning until after the guests had left.
He started cleaning when the guests [had] left.
He waited until the guests had left before he started cleaning.
- We joined the club a month ago.
We've been members of the club for a month.



- He's never driven a Porsche before.
It's the first time he's (ever) driven a Porsche.
- They have never heard such a funny joke.
It's the funniest joke they've ever heard.
- She hasn't phoned yet. She still hasn't phoned.
- It's a week since she visited me.
She hasn't visited me for a week.
- The last time I called her was two days ago.
I haven't called her for two days.
- When did you last meet him?
When was the last time you met him?
- When did she buy the car?
How long ago did she buy the car?
How long is it since she bought the car?



✚ Study these examples. The second sentence has a similar meaning to the first sentence:

1. I've never heard such a sad story.
Ever It's the **saddest story I have ever** heard.
2. He started painting fifteen years ago.
Been He **has been painting** for fifteen years.
3. She hasn't finished decorating the flat yet.
Still She is **still decorating** the flat.
4. I've never eaten Chinese food before.



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First It's the **first time I have ever** eaten Chinese food.

5. When did they graduate from college?

Since How long is it **since they graduated** from college?

6. He didn't begin talking until everyone had sat down.

Before He waited until everyone had sat down **before he began** talking.

7. We haven't been to the theatre for a year.

Time The **last time we went to** the theatre was a year ago.

8. It's two years since I went on holiday.

Have I **have not been** on holiday for two years.

Never They **had never traveled** by boat before.

9. Heba was about to have dinner when her husband called.

Point Heba was **on the point of having** dinner when her husband called.



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